Where there's a Will there's a gay

CFV goes national

By Cara DeGette

Grassfire legislation that restricts gays and lesbians from seeking protected-class status has elevated Colorado For Family Values leaders into hotshots as they offer groups in nearly every other state marketing strategies and a how-to guide designed to stoke their own blazes.

It all started back in November, 1992, with the passage of Amendment 2, the nation's first state constitutional law that restricts homosexuals from pursuing legal protection against discrimination. The amendment's sponsors now concede that their victory took even them by surprise. So how did they get it passed?

According to an internal CFV-produced packet obtained by *The Independent*, prayer and several miracles were involved. So was a shrewd marketing strategy, a jovial down-home point man and lots of cash. Called *The Colorado Model*, the two-inch thick notebook was first distributed at CFV's emotional, post-Amendment 2 national conference held at the Navigators' Glen Eyrie headquarters in Colorado Springs, April 30 – May 1, 1993. Representatives from 45 states attended the gathering, designed to help launch similar campaigns in cities and states across the nation.

This year, CFV sponsored another conference at Glen Eyrie, reportedly drawing 40 organizations. Many of the groups are nationally recognized, including Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition and the Traditional Values Coalition. Colorado Springs-based Focus on the Family reportedly sent three speakers.

The practical workbook now includes nine audiotapes and two videotapes, and is sold for $95 to groups who want to replicate what CFV accomplished here.

Straight talk

After it passed, Amendment 2 headed straight to court. It was deemed unconstitutional by the Denver District Court and is now up for scrutiny in the Colorado Supreme Court. Most legal experts predict Amendment 2 will be declared unconstitutional, but its passage alone was a major victory for conservative Christian groups trying to counter what they call the "Militant Homosexual Agenda" sweeping the nation.

Last year, the City of Cincinnati was successful in passing similar legislation restricting homosexuals from seeking protected-rights status, with 70 percent of the campaign funds coming from CFV. This year, groups gathered sufficient signatures to place anti-homosexual rights initiatives on the November ballot in Idaho and Oregon. Eight other states failed to collect enough petition signatures to place similar measures on the ballot.

Greg Worthen

Colorado Springs founder Gen. William Palmer's Glen Eyrie home. Now owned by The Navigators, the castle was the site where Colorado for Family Values held its 1993 and 1994 national conventions to help groups take Amendment 2-like legislation to their own homestates.

The players

CFV executive director Will Perkins introduced and gave closing commentary at the 1993 conference. The remainder of the seminar was emceed by CFV president Kevin Tebedo.

Featured speakers also included Douglas Kay, who was introduced as the founder of the public policy department of Focus on the Family. Active in California and Oregon politics, Kay has worked in coalition building in 38 states. He has worked as a commercial banker and is considered a marketing genius.

The Rev. James Ryle from Boulder also spoke on the role of pastors in the fight against homosexual rights.

Across Colorado, church leaders were noticeably quiet during the battle, and Ryle explained that pastors are also businessmen which might be one reason why the majority publicly avoided the constroversial issue. Ryle is pastor of the Boulder Valley Vineyard Church and is chaplain to the University of Colorado football team. He is also pastor to and a personal friend of Buffs' Coach Bill McCartney.

Dr. Paul Cameron, whose membership in the American Psychological Association was revoked because of unethical conduct but is nonetheless the champion of many conservative Christian organizations for his work in opposition to homosexuals, also spoke on what he calls the three major spheres of life: Religion, Sexuality and Economics.

Mark Olsen, director of communications for CFV, gave an overview of the Amendment 2 public relations and media strategy.

The three miracles

Will Perkins, a Colorado Springs native, owner of Perkins Motor Company, and a grandfather of nine, emerged as the "voice of reason" in the Amendment 2 campaign. *The Colorado Model* urges all groups seeking to pass like-minded legislation to abandon "ranting homophobes" for a personality like Perkins. Indeed, the calm tone of the campaign caught opponents by surprise.

"Will's personality is an amiable, jovial, self-deprecating person who is impossible not to like and impossible to perceive as 'hateful,'" *The Model* notes. "He's also an excellent salesman, in the best sense of the word. As such, he personifies an uncanny recreation of Ronald Reagan's rhetorical attributes."

But Perkins homespun style couldn't have done it alone. The campaign took off after Bill McCartney, former U.S. Sen. Bill Armstrong and Focus on the Family, which had recently relocated to Colorado Springs from Pomona, Calif., gave the Amendment 2 campaign clout and an unexpected surge in acceptance, *The Model* notes.

CFV leaders like to say their legislation was born at a grassroots level, the result of a telephone call between two Colorado housewives. But Amendment 2 might have gone no further had it not been for the "three miracles."

The first two miracles occurred when Focus on the Family offered to produce and distribute public service announcements asking people to carry petitions.

Miracle #1: Radio stations across the state played them, which Focus informed CFV was "very unusual."

Floating to Denver

To the Editor:

For years I have heard rumors about an eastern Front Range Toll Road (FRTR). Your "News in Brief" (July 6) confirms that they were not idle rumors.

I am not convinced that the proposed road would significantly ease I-25 congestion since it would lie so far to the east. However, as a major shipping route it probably does have much potential. The brief news item suggests that the roadway would consist of a major four-lane highway along with a railway.

While the proposal could move some sources of pollution farther east, I have long believed that the Front Range deserves a better solution which could even be installed along the existing I-25 corridor. The FRTR could benefit from a similar design. The solution is this: An overland ferry. Such a ferry would consist of two parallel tracks (one for northbound transport and one for southbound transport). For the I-25 corridor the system would not need to pass through the existing major cities but the FRTR version could be continuous. Rail cars and terminals could be built so that automobiles could drive onto and off the cars with relative ease. Passengers could elect to remain in their cars for the trip or join the pedestrian travelers in special lounge cars. Terminals could be placed only at the northern and southern ends of each major metropolitan area (as well as Denver Central) and need only consist of a ticket office and parking area.

I intuitively feel that the cost in both time and money of intercity trips on this Front Range Overland Ferry would be less than for trips taken in individual cars on other roadways. It would serve as a logical extension of other mass-transit systems such as Denver's light-rail system. Perhaps it would be safer as well. The whole idea is one possible answer to the question: How can a traveler take advantage of mass-transit and still have his or her own car at the destination point? Commuters could have the choice of taking their cars along on some days but not on others. A Front Range Overland Ferry could be a shining example of what can be done.

One last note, I have always been concerned for the migratory wildlife (especially the pronghorn) which dwells on the plains east of the Front Range. I have hope that any potential barrier to their migration routes be redesigned to accommodate them. For an automotive roadway, the safety of both animals and people is at stake.

Keith E. Propp
Colorado Springs

Gimme that "Ole Time Religion"

To the Editor:

In a recent letter published in the *Gazette Telegraph*, I suggested that certain fringe conservative and/or religious organizations have undertaken a well-organized campaign, ingenious in its scope and tenor and funded in large measure by tax-exempt dollars, conspiring to infiltrate secular government posts, political offices, school boards and the like, with the express purpose of introducing legislation, policy and other dark efforts like Amendment 2, directed at those who do not conform to the stilted morality of these groups.

I have received a number of responses to that letter, the general nature of which was to deny the existence of the concerted effort I described. They suggested that what we are experiencing is a number of oppressed people whose religious freedoms are being oppressed, huddling together, defending themselves against a majority of atheists and fallen Christians.

It is important to note that the sincerity of these respondents is not in question but rather their willingness to rationalize even the most blatant episodes in which religious extremism surfaces.

One has only to read the minutes of the School District 12 textbook adoption meeting, in which a board member said, "The texts do not go far enough in expressing the importance of Judeo-Christian values as the moral basis of our culture," or scan the transcripts of the secret meeting held in May by Colorado for Family Values, Focus on the Family and other similar groups in which:

1. Christians and their pastors who do not espouse the national religious campaign against gays and lesbians are described as "incredibly damaging," "not knowing anything" and "wimps."

2. Robert Skolrood, who helped draft the legal defense of Amendment 2, said, "We fight to capture every thought until it acknowledges the authority of Christ."

3. CFV chairman Will Perkins' sworn testimony in court that Amendment 2 was "not a religious issue," appears to have been less than candid and that Amendment 2 was all along a call for warfare against "evil" gays and more recently, dissenting Christians.

4. A "to-do" agenda was formulated to expand the attacks on gays and lesbians to include a "central clearing house" for information targeting dissenting corporations, media personalities, clergy and office holders plus an aggressive "war of words like hetero-phobia, Christian-phobia and Christian-bashing," and the creation of a national "anti-gay" political action committee.

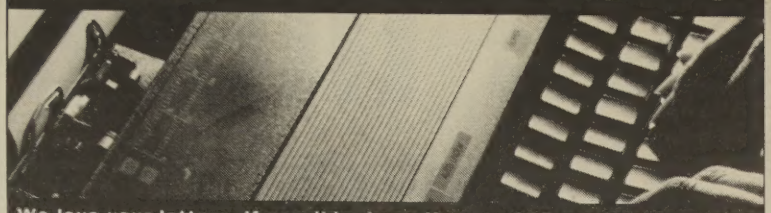
The above statements are not the Godless accusations of an immoral, atheistic, commie-pinko, pro-choice, baby murdering, Christian-bashing, bleeding heart, liberal, holy-phobic heretic. They are direct quotes from and a product of that "good Christian thinking" mentioned in several responses to my letter.

The apparent celestial appointment received by Kevin Tebedo and Will Perkins of Colorado for Family Values to rid society of homosexuality, doesn't square with the fact that gays and lesbians are a precious creation of a perfect and omniscient God and like all others, have been a part of His infinitely varied creation plan for over 6,000 years. It doesn't appear that God plans to remove this segment of humanity from production, let alone sub-contract their demise to holy hitmen of Perkins' and Tebedo's ilk.

That "Ole Time Religion" may be "good enough for Moses," but it sure is hell on gays, lesbians, dissenting Christians and other free-thinking human beings.

Richard Baker
Colorado Springs

L e t t e r s



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Our children are just fine, thank you

To the Editor:

Recently, *Freedom Watch*, the Citizen's Project publication, revealed details of a highly secret conference of far-right religious organizations, including CFV and Focus on the Family. The proceedings leave no doubt as to just how radical the national anti-gay movement has become.

The Colorado Springs Chapter of P-FLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) would like to address specifically the negative impact that the anti-gay campaign has had on traditional families. When CFV, Focus on the Family and other pseudo-family groups talk in terms of battles, weapons and "God's warfare for the destruction of the enemy's strongholds" they are taking aim at our children and the sanctity of our homes.

We submit that declaring war on the people we love is not a family value. And we challenge any organization or individual who uses the term "family values" for such profane ends.

Nor is skewering the truth for self-serving purposes a family value. One objective listed under the "Foundational Principles" coming out of the conference is the decision of the radical right to promote the belief that "homosexuality be regarded as a sad pathology by implication." The truth is that this belief was abandoned years ago by both the American Psychological Association and the American Psychiatric Association. P-FLAG families also can vouch for the fact — after living with both gay and straight family members for many years — that having a different sexual orientation does not equate with being either sad or pathologic.

We are appalled by the words of John Eldredge of Focus on the Family who referred to homosexuals' struggle for equality as "inherently evil" and in a later interview on Channel 11, referred to homosexuals as "morally bankrupt." How sad that an organization who advertises itself as pro-family is so far removed from the human experience. And how tragic that Focus on the Family, which could be a positive influence on young lives, has resorted instead to name-calling and slanderous labeling. It's no wonder that some families retreat deep into the closet after hearing their loved ones constantly denigrated. Such irresponsible and prejudiced statements are harmful to families and do not qualify as positive values.

P-FLAG parents the world over know that the great majority of our gay and lesbian children — just like our heterosexual children — are upstanding citizens, hard working, contributing members of society. They are loving family members, spiritually strong and morally responsible. They have enriched our lives and broadened our horizons. Quite simply, they are a blessing bestowed by God and we love them just as they are. Their value to us and to society is not debatable.

We would like to reassure young gays and lesbians of whatever religious background that just because they have a different sexual orientation, they are NOT evil or "morally bankrupt" or pathological. We also want to assure their families that there IS another voice in this community which can provide valid information about homosexuality and offer guidance away from prejudice, condemnation and irrational fear.

Keeping families together is the mission of P-FLAG. Our family values stress education, understanding, acceptance and support, but most of all, LOVE, thereby empowering all our children — straight and gay — to lead happy and productive lives.

Ed and Gerda Fletcher
Leo and Linda Bohack
Bill and Pat Pfeiffer
Colorado Springs

In the name of the founding fathers

To the Editor:

I am not an atheist and I am certainly no fan of the self-important Ms. O'Hair so I cannot speak for American Atheists. However, I wish to make some reply to Alan R. Crippen II's article in the June 15 issue.

First, I believe Governor Romer is entitled to call upon any and all citizens of Colorado for help — religious or not. If some are church-goers, this does not constitute "encouraging a government partnership with religious institutions." I'm sure the governor would welcome help from atheists and agnostics also.

Mr. Crippen implies that our nation's founders were devout Christians, which is untrue. Most were Deists. George Washington called religion "superstition," refused to take communion and refused to kneel in church — when he went. He was called "only a Unitarian, if he is anything," by Episcopalian minister James Abercrombie. John Adam's wrote, "The 'divinity' of Jesus is made a convenient cover for absurdity."

Thomas Jefferson was so upset with the King James Bible that he wrote his own! Among his famous quotations are, "Question with boldness even the existence of God; because if there be one, He must approve the homage of Reason rather than that of blindfolded Fear;" "It does me no injury for my neighbor to say there are 20 gods, or no God. It neither picks my pocket nor breaks my leg.;" and the one inscribed on the Jefferson Monument which was directed squarely against the clergy of his time, "I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man," which he wrote in a letter to a friend in 1802 just after he had sent his famous "wall of Separation" letter to the Danbury Baptists. He meant religious and political tyranny.

James Madison wrote, "A just government, instituted to perpetuate liberty, does not need clergy (or church)." Madison opposed paid Congressional chaplains and prevented the state of Virginia from taxing people to support the churches. No school voucher proponent, he!

If the founders of the United States were Bible-believing Christians, they would not have rebelled against King George because the Bible preaches the divine right of kings and subservience to them. There is not a word about voting, democracy or a republic in it.

Kay Heim
Colorado Springs

Miracle #2: The PSA's generated "phenomenal response." Empty petitions to get the legislation on the ballot were sent out by the thousands.

Miracle #3: The now-infamous press conference where University of Colorado Football Coach Bill McCartney, wearing a CU Buffs shirt and surrounded by the official CU logo, announced that homosexuality is "an abomination of God."

The press threw a fit, and university officials rebuked McCartney, saying the highest paid employee of the state of Colorado had no right to push his personal agenda while in his capacity of public employee. But CFV reported the press conference "turned into a massive (media) backlash. It became the major free speech issue of the moment." Signed petitions began to flood in.

Bill Armstrong agreed to put his signature on fund raising letters for Amendment 2, giving instant credibility to the campaign, its leaders say.

Without Focus and the two Bills, Amendment 2 might have never seen the Secretary of State's office.

Focus on the Family Vice President of Ministry Outreach and Pastoral Ministries H.B. London also offered to sign letters inviting pastors to sit down with CFV leaders. Until then, most of the efforts to bring church leaders from around the state to the table had been "dismal failures," *The Model* reported. Meetings were eventually held in Denver and Colorado Springs.

At this year's conference, fewer words were minced when it came time to address clergy participation in legislative drives.

"Our pastors don't know anything," said speaker Robert Skolrood of the National Legal Foundation. "And most of them are wimps."

Focus on the Family Director of Seminar and Research John Eldridge noted that pastors are "a long-term project," and that "Pastors are terrified that this issue will split their churches."

The Model notes that Focus on the Family may "consider aiding your group on a case-by-case basis." Indeed, this year Focus on the Family reportedly assisted initiative supporters in the failed Washington state ballot question.

Dollar signs

Focus on the Family advisor Doug Kay says money or lack of it will make or break campaigns. Will Perkins said $400,000 was raised during the Amendment 2 campaign drive.

"If you can't raise significant dollars then don't do it," Kay said.

A two-pronged approach to getting the money is the best way. By all means, take small donations. But cultivate relationships with big-business owners to get the real money, Kay continued.

Kay explained that a volunteer fundraiser might draw 450 people and bring in $4,000. That's small potatoes compared to a breakfast meeting of "high-network individuals" that could raise $27,000 to $30,000 in just one hour.

Groups who are working to get legislation passed need to be prepared to meet with potential donors with business and marketing plans in place, and be fully prepared to answer questions.

Kay also recommended reading *Forbes* magazine and the *Wall Street Journal* in order to be able to "speak intelligently over lunch with a potential large donor."

Nuts and Bolts

Besides money, a group needs to have completed research, a specific strategy and focus sessions. Everyone needs to have a Day Timer, he said.

It's all about planning.

Lists of Republicans, pro-life groups and other conservative groups can be purchased relatively cheaply. Tebedo said CFV bought an inexpensive list of Colorado's registered Republicans.

Both direct mail and marketing are good to get the word out, Kay said, and they are literally 10 times better when done together.

Kay alluded to CFV's mass-mailed fundraising letter that carried Bill Armstrong's signature on the upper left of the envelope.

"Will's personality is an amiable, jovial, self-deprecating person who is impossible not to like and impossible to perceive as 'hateful.' He's also an excellent salesman, in the best sense of the word. As such, he personifies an uncanny recreation of Ronald Reagan's rhetorical attributes."

— The Colorado Model

"It's very powerful. If you can get a guy like Bill Armstrong in your state to help you – dynamite. (People will say) 'Gee, I want to read something from one of my favorite sons.'"

But don't stop there, Kay said. Follow up that letter with a phone call. Sure, the cost of doing both is much higher, but there's about a 10 percent improvement in results, he said.

Another method is to make the call first, and telling the recipient to expect a follow-up letter.

"The principle of marketing is not shotgun, but rifle," he said. "As the Lord's people let's use the technology that's available."

Kay recommends groups consider filing with the Internal Revenue Service as a multi-tiered organization, with separate entities for direct lobbying, fundraising and public relations. Kay warned organizations to be "squeaky clean" with legal and tax matters.

"Don't let the opponents trip you up by your mistakes," he said.

Automated phone banks, with which CFV is now equipped, as well as installing 1-900 phone lines were also suggested. One conference attendee suggested a 900 telephone number could be used to gauge public opinion over proposed anti-gay political legislation in local and statewide campaigns. That way, even opponents who called in would be contributors.

The Guerrilla Squad

One idea that floated around but was never implemented during the Amendment 2 campaign was to organize a so-called "guerrilla squad" of minority leaders to visit the editorial staffs of major Colorado newspapers.

Olsen said the idea belonged to Bill Armstrong.

But, Olsen said, "we couldn't get minority leaders to coordinate their schedules" and so the idea was abandoned. CFV did produce a video showing several recognized minority leaders who expressed their support of the amendment. It also produced and distributed 10,000 brochures targeting the minority community.

Olsen said he wishes CFV would have tapped more thoroughly into minority support across the state. He urged conference attendees to tell minorities that giving protected status based on how people have sex "undermines everything done by Martin Luther King."

"We would recommend starting early. (These are the) groups the opposition will have gotten to, but don't despair. There are some discerning people."

I loved her so I blew her away

Conference leaders identified their proposed "no room for hate" campaign as one that also was never fully implemented because CFV leaders couldn't agree on its basic philosophy.

One argument sometimes made is that Christians when going to war must never kill the enemy in hatred, but instead kill them in love. Cameron said that "strange ideal" made little sense to him.

"Nobody ever said 'In love, I blew him away,' he said. "It's better off to say (violence is) totally inappropriate and then get off this very strange philosophical point."

CFV leaders apparently agreed in part because a "no room for hate" campaign would have been perceived as an admission to being "hatemongers."

During the 1993 conference, Olsen said that the opposition had often accused CFV leaders of being "filled with hate." On *The Colorado Model* tapes, Olsen told the audience that the term stuck, but he was quickly corrected by Tebedo.

"I'm sorry I misspoke. It did not stick. They (the opponents) were attempting to make it stick," Olsen said.

The "no room for hate" campaign proved itself virtually unnecessary in the Amendment 2 campaign "because of the way Will (Perkins) handled himself," Olsen said.

Soundbites

Olsen pointed out that in a campaign similar to Amendment 2, it's the swing voters who will make or break the election. It's important, therefore, to prepare responses to several questions that are sure to come up over and over again.

Among the soundbites used in the Amendment 2 campaign:

• When asked if the legislation was discriminatory; "To discriminate is to choose. The freedom to choose is the heart of a democratic society."

• Use the slogan "No special rights." The three magic words worked well in the campaign to respond to voters' concerns that Amendment 2 might violate a person's civil rights. "Having a job or a house is not a special right" is the suggested response.

Cameron offered that when trying to push anti-homosexual legislation, "No Special Rights" could actually be part of the name of the organization so everyone would repeat that slogan when referencing the group.

• When faced with someone who tells you that hate is not a family value: "You're absolutely right. I agree with you."

Olsen said this response was "devastating" to the opposition.

The Red Phone

Tebedo believes that nearly every newspaper reporter in Colorado has a red phone in her right-hand desk drawer. That phone is a direct hotline to "militant homosexual organizations" around the country.

"Let's get real here. The majority of the mainstream press, including your little paper, is pro-homosexual. You're looking for fodder and it's the same with the *Denver Post* and the *Rocky Mountain News* and the reporting (staff) at the *Gazette Telegraph*," he recently said.

During the 1993 conference, much time was spent on how to talk to, deal with and manipulate the media. As strongly as many groups working to pass anti-gay laws dislike and distrust the media, most of them realize that at least a working relationship is paramount.

"What democracy has come to in large part in our country is access to the media," said Doug Kay at CFV's seminar.

The one media "faux pas" occurred right after CFV emerged victorious with its petition drive. Olsen said Tebedo was feeling "very ebullient" and "enthusiastic" and told a reporter that CFV had gotten "in the homosexuals faces" and had "forced them to put the boxing gloves on."

His comments caused more consternation within the ranks of CFV and among its supporters, but didn't generate much negative publicity among the general public.

What's to come

Recently, the local watchdog group *Citizen's Project* published in its monthly newsletter a report on this year's CFV conference, held May 16-18. Tebedo said last year's conference was held to educate dozens of interested groups — the 1994 gathering addressed the "issue of homosexuality" itself.

There was a virtual media blackout to the conference, but *Citizen's Project* spokesman Mike Shaver reported the organization obtained tapes of the conference.

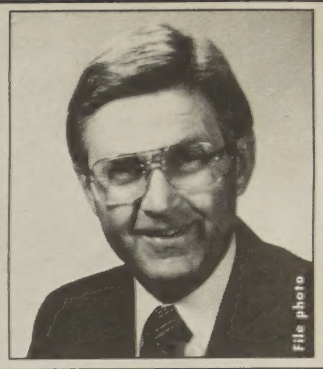
According to the *Citizens Project* newsletter, the conference resulted in an "eight-page blueprint for future action," a clear indication that CFV has grown beyond it's "grassroots" image.

Included in that blueprint are plans for groups across America to organize a national computer bulletin board service or commercial on-line service, as well as develop an "information and data exchange" to collect and share information about office holders, obtain information about media representatives and activists who are gay or are seen to be sympathetic to gays, monitor crimes committed by gays, wage mass media blitzes and introduce legislation.

The gorgeous blonde

Will Perkins gets some whoops from his audience when he tells the story of the gorgeous blonde. It goes like this:

"Two homosexuals were sitting on a park bench and a gorgeous blonde goes by – beeeauuutiful girl, And then one homosexual looks at the other and says, 'Boy, it's times like this that makes you wish you were a lesbian.'"


File photo

Will Perkins: Down Home Point Man

Leaps and bounds

Colorado For Family Values was organized in 1991. A non-profit organization, it is required by law to release its tax information and supporting data. The following highlights CFV's financial history.

1991

Total Contributions: $49,717
Total expenses: $52,032
- Salaries: $20,525
- Rent/utilities: $2,903
- Printing/publications/postage: $23,409
- Advertising/supplies/travel: $3,495

Accomplishment listed:

• CFV is networking with thousands of Colorado citizens statewide to educate the public on all the facts about the homosexual lifestyle so the public can make an informed, responsible decision about whether to give this lifestyle protected status and the state's legal blessing.

1992

Contributions: $371,703
Total revenues: $371,739
Total expenses: $337,625
- Salaries: $14,884
- Compensation of officers: $30,703
- Employee benefits: $1,228
- Professional fundraising fees: $18,570
- Supplies: $19,609
- Telephone: $4,940
- Postage: $29,872
- Printing/publications: $35,902
- Travel: $1,612
- Conferences/conventions: $3,693
- Media/expense account: $146,220
- Bank charges: $90
- Contract labor: $15,917

Accomplishments listed:

• Established a statewide network of leaders to pray and devise/coordinate educational, political, PR, fundraising, signature gathering activities.

• Created initiative language proposing a constitutional amendment; launched educational programs to inform, motivate, raise funds and spark drive to gather petition signatures statewide.

• Launched petition-signature drive to get homosexual rights issues before voters statewide; conducted related educational activities.

1993

Contributions: $959,171
Total revenues: $962,696

Total expenses: $685,313
- Salaries and wages: $88,636
- Payroll taxes: $7,912
- Fundraising fees: $9,693
- Legal fees: $60
- Supplies: $7,118
- Telephone: $5,821
- Postage: $62,649
- Printing/publications: $50,764

Accomplishments listed:

• Education of public concerning homosexual agenda in government, schools and communities. Presented 18 seminars; published monthly newsletter; supported book publication; presented national seminar; made presentations to other organizations.

• Consultation and assistance to states and communities concerning proposed referendums; educational programs to inform public and petition-signature drives.

Non-salaried officers listed:
Will Perkins, president
Sharon Bath, secretary/treasurer
Woodie Stevens, vice president
Martin Kuhn, executive board member

A healthy dose of facts

Colorado for Family Values promotes the use of statistics to back up arguments of why homosexuals do not deserve "special rights."

In its *Colorado Model*, the organization stresses that polls continue to reinforce that "opposing militant homosexual militarism doesn't require hatred – just a healthy dose of facts."

But accepting the facts which emerged from this year's CFV national conference is kind of like buying milk from a pig farmer.

According to CFV president Kevin Tebedo, the national average income for homosexuals is more than $55,000 per year and hints the statistics are reason enough not to "reward" them.

Tebedo says he bases his numbers for homosexual income on the average income used by prohomosexual lobbyists themselves. Groups promoting gay rights say the average income is taken from a marketing survey for the gay magazine *The Advocate* and does not represent the larger population.

At this year's CFV conference, Family Research Institute Chairman Dr. Paul Cameron disputed those numbers.

"Most people who engage in homosexuality are of the lower strata. These are people who are waiters and busboys and bums and hobos and jailbirds and so forth," he said.

Tebedo said as there is "plenty of empirical evidence" showing homosexuals earn more than the national average, and his organizaton will continue to use the data offered by the homosexual lobby.

— Cara DeGette

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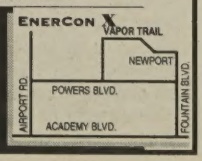

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NEW YORK-STYLE BRICK OVEN BAKED PIZZA
By the slice or Pie (reg.or Whole Wheat)

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